

BOOK REVIEW

COLEOPTERA OF TRISTAN DA CUNHA, by Per Brinck. Results of the Norwegian Scientific Expedition to Tristan da Cunha 1937-1938. No. 17: 1-121, 26 text figs., 1 pl. Oslo, Det Norske Videnskaps-Akademi. Price 10 Kr. December, 1948. This important paper deals with the beetle fauna of a group of three islands, Tristan da Cunha, Inaccessible, and Nightingale, lying midway between the tips of South America and Africa, and perhaps the most isolated in the world. It includes the descriptions of new species in Dytiscidae, Ptiliidae, Staphylinidae, a new genus of dytiscid, a key to the genera of the tribe Palaechtini (weevils; 4 new genera, with 2 keys to the 11 new species of one of them, *Tristanodes*). In addition there are sections on the reduction of wings and eyes, distribution of the species, ecology, origin of the fauna, and also a most interesting discussion of the relations between the carnivorous and phytophagous Coleoptera from the Arctic area to the Antarctic. Pages 104-117 contain a subsidiary study, a reclassification of the dytiscid subfamily Colymbetinae, with keys, and the establishment of three new tribes.—HUGH B. LEECH, California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco 18, Calif.

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